

Please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claims 11 and 21. Please replace claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 12, 17, and 18 as amended herewith. The marked changes are shown on the attached pages entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Please add claims 24 and 25.

1. A stackable plant support comprising:

an upper ring;

a lower ring;

at least one leg attached to the upper ring and lower ring, the leg adapted to support the upper ring and lower ring and engage the ground, the leg comprising a ledge shaped so as to permit application of a downward force by a plant support user to engage the plant support with the ground, the ledge defined by a bend in said leg, the ledge located below the position where the lower ring attaches to the leg; and

the plant support shaped to enclose plants and support plant containers.

6. The stackable plant support of claim 1 wherein said at least one leg is an elongated U-shaped member comprising a closed end and an open end defined by two portions of the U-shaped member;

the upper ring is attached to said at least one leg proximate the closed end such that a loop is formed above the upper ring by the closed end of the leg; and

the ends of the two portions of the U-shaped member are adapted to engage the ground.

B2 7. The stackable plant support of claim 6 wherein the ledge has a bend in the two portions of the U-shaped member.

10. A plant cage apparatus comprising,
at least two arcuate parallel vertically spaced horizontally disposed members, wherein the two arcuate members are an upper ring and a lower ring, the lower ring having a larger diameter than the upper ring, the upper and lower ring shaped so as to facilitate the stacking of a plurality of plant cage apparatus, and to accommodate the insertion of a plant container within the plant cage apparatus, the upper ring engaging a portion of the plant container;

B3 at least two legs attached to the circular members wherein each of said legs is formed with an elongate inverted U-shaped member;

a ledge formed on at least one leg of said legs for securement of the plant cage apparatus relative to the associated plant;

at least one loop formed by the connection of one of said legs and one of said arcuate members for removal and transport of the plant cage apparatus; and

wherein the plant cage is adapted to support an associated plant.

12. A method for using a wire structure as both a supporting structure for plants and plant containers comprising:

B4 providing a wire structure centered about a vertical axis, the wire structure having: at least two parallel rings vertically spaced and horizontally disposed connected to at least two U-shaped legs extending downwardly from said rings, the wire structure defining an interior volume; a ledge formed on at least one of said legs for securement of the wire structure; and at least one loop formed by the connection of one of said legs and one of said rings for removal and transport of the wire structure;

3rd time

134 wherein the at least two rings include an upper ring and a lower ring, the lower ring having a larger diameter than the upper ring, the upper and lower ring shaped so as to facilitate the stacking of a plurality of wire structures, and to accommodate the insertion of a plant container within the structure, the upper ring engaging a portion of the plant container;

inserting the legs into the ground for using the wire structure as a support for plants, wherein a downward force is applied to the ledge by a wire structure user to insert the legs into the ground without causing damage to leg-to-ring connections of the wire structure; and

pulling up on said at least one loop to remove and transport the wire structure when the wire structure is not in use.

17. A support member for a plant support apparatus, the support member comprising:

135 at least one leg attachable to an upper ring and a lower ring, the leg adapted to support the upper ring and lower ring and engage the ground, the at least one leg comprising a ledge shaped so as to permit application of a downward force by a plant support user to engage the plant support with the ground; and

wherein the ledge is defined by a bend in the at least one leg, the ledge located below the position where the lower ring attaches to the U-shaped member.

18. The support member of claim 17 wherein said at least one leg is an elongated U-shaped member comprising:

a closed end and an open end defined by two portions of the U-shaped member;

a portion of the upper ring adapted to be attached proximate the closed end of said at least one leg such that a loop is formed above the upper ring by the closed end of the leg; and

3
the ends of the two portions of the U-shaped member are adapted to engage the ground.

Please add the following new claims:

24. A stackable plant support comprising:

at least one ring;

at least one leg attached to said at least one ring, the leg adapted to support said at least one ring and engage the ground, the leg comprising a ledge shaped so as to permit application of a downward force by a plant support user to engage the plant support with the ground, the ledge defined by a bend in said leg, the ledge located below the position where said at least one ring attaches to the leg;

wherein said at least one leg is an elongated U-shaped member comprising a closed end and an open end defined by two portions of the U-shaped member,

the at least one ring is attached to said at least one leg proximate the closed end such that a loop is formed above the ring by the closed end of the leg; and

the ends of the two portions of the U-shaped member are adapted to engage the ground; and

the plant support shaped to enclose plants and support plant containers.

25. A method for using a wire structure as both a supporting structure for plants and plant containers comprising:

providing a wire structure centered about a vertical axis, the wire structure having: at least one ring vertically spaced and horizontally disposed connected to at least one U-shaped leg extending downwardly from said at least one ring, the wire structure defining an interior volume; a ledge formed on said at least one leg for securement of the wire structure; and at

least one loop formed by the connection of said at least one leg and at least one ring for removal and transport of the wire structure;

wherein the ledge defined by a bend in said leg, the ledge located below the position where said at least one ring attaches to the leg;

inserting said at least one leg into the ground for using the wire structure as a support for plants, wherein a downward force is applied to the ledge by a wire structure user to insert the at least one leg into the ground without causing damage to leg-to-ring connections of the wire structure; and

pulling up on said at least one loop to remove and transport the wire structure when the wire structure is not in use.